

long-term infrastructure projects to prioritize the efficient use of Colorado River water in the Coachella Valley. CVWD and the surrounding agricultural community have invested heavily in its irrigation delivery system to minimize water loss, including canal lining projects and a closed pipe irrigation distribution system. Agricultural customers are encouraged to irrigate with canal water instead of groundwater. CVWD delivers canal water to more than 1,200 irrigation customers. In addition, more than 60 percent of agricultural customers use drip irrigation systems, which allows the average water application to be less than 3.8 acre-feet per acre.

CVWD, in partnership with the Bureau, implemented significant actions to conserve Colorado River Water. These investments include a 500-mile irrigation delivery system to minimize system losses using pipes and metering 100 percent of properties served. CVWD also lined a 49-mile section of the Coachella Canal that yielded 132,000 acre-feet per year in savings, as well as lined a remaining 35-mile section of Coachella Canal with San Diego County Water Authority and the San Luis Rey Settlement Parties. Today, CVWD and the Bureau are celebrating a \$60 million loan for the Irrigation Lateral Replacement Project. The project replaces ten sections of the aging pipeline and other water management structures to provide reliability in the operation and maintenance of this vital irrigation infrastructure. I want to congratulate both CVWD and the Bureau on their long partnership in delivering water to the Coachella Valley.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SMOKY VALLEY ROLLER MILLS

HON. TRACEY MANN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the 1898 Smoky Valley Roller Mills in Lindsborg, Kansas. The Smoky Valley Roller Mills served as a vital agricultural and commercial hub to Lindsborg and the surrounding region from 1898 through 1955. The historic building and original equipment were restored and preserved in the 1960s, '70s, and '80s thanks to the efforts of numerous volunteers in the Smoky Valley community. Now, Smoky Valley Roller Mills is preserved in working condition today as an historical treasure, community cultural center, and a beautiful marvel of engineering and ingenuity. I thank the museum board of directors, staff, volunteers, and many members of the Smoky Valley community who are now working diligently to secure the future of the Smoky Valley Roller Mills for future generations to enjoy.

CHARLES COSSABOONE

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, last month, I had the pleasure of attending Charles "Chic" Cossaboone's retirement party. Chic worked

at the Southern State Correctional Facility in South Jersey for 25 years and retired last November as a Senior Corrections Officer. In his free time, he also coached football, wrestling, and lacrosse to the youth in our South Jersey community. Since his retirement, Chic has been spending time with his high school sweetheart, Amy, and his three children, Jessica, Kathleen, and Charley. His future plans include working for Dietz Masonry in Ocean View, South Jersey. It was a pleasure to attend Chic's retirement party and he should be proud of his long and successful career at the correctional facility. God bless Chic, and God Bless our United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 136.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER JERUZAL'S SERVICE TO THE CITY OF DEARBORN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Christopher Jeruzal on the occasion of his retirement from the Dearborn Fire Department after almost 20 years of service to the City of Dearborn, Michigan. His significant service to our community is worthy of commendation.

Captain Jeruzal joined the Dearborn Fire Department in 2003 and that same year received a Departmental Commendation. Within the next 2 years, Captain Jeruzal earned the Fire Chief Life Saving Award on three occasions. He consistently moved up the ranks of the Department, being promoted to Fire Engineer in 2015, Lieutenant in 2020, and finally Captain earlier this year. Captain Jeruzal's dedication to duty is evident in earning a Perfect Attendance award in 2018, as well as earning a Military Service Award from the U.S. Navy in 2017 and a Vaccination Center Award when we were at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the course of his extensive career, Captain Jeruzal has been the recipient of countless awards for excellence in service including the Meritorious Company Award, Fire Chiefs Unit Recommendation, and seven Safe Driving Awards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Captain Christopher Jeruzal for his exemplary 20 years of service. He has selflessly served the City of Dearborn in his role as a Captain of the Fire Department and has been steadfastly dedicated to the safety of our community. I join with Captain Jeruzal's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to him in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE RICHARD E. FIELDS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an esteemed legal trailblazer, beloved community leader, and great mentor. Judge Richard E. Fields transitioned from this life on March 3, 2023, in his hometown of Charleston, South Carolina. His wisdom and character were universally respected and will be sorely missed.

Judge Fields was born on October 1, 1920, in Charleston County, South Carolina. He attended public schools in Charleston before achieving a bachelor's degree in business administration from West Virginia State College. His desire to pursue equal justice for the African American community led him to obtaining a law degree from Howard University, where he graduated in 1947.

Upon graduating from Howard, Judge Fields returned to Charleston and was promptly admitted into the South Carolina Bar Association. He became the first African American attorney to open a law office in Charleston since the early 1900s and the first ever African American litigator. Even during an era of widespread and debilitating discrimination in the South, the quality of Judge Fields' work and character quickly gained the admiration and respect of Charleston's legal community.

After many years in private practice, Judge Fields was selected as a municipal judge for the City of Charleston in 1969 and as a family court judge in 1975, once again breaking barriers as the first African American to serve in each respective position. He continued in that capacity until he was elected to the Circuit Court of South Carolina in 1980, becoming the first African American elected judicial official in the Southeast. After faithfully serving on the Circuit Court bench for twelve years, Judge Fields retired in 1992. His judicial tenure was marked by the unwavering respect he showed to all who appeared before him.

In addition to his law practice and judgeships, Judge Fields employed his passion and intellect to serve his community in countless other ways. In 1950, he formed the Charleston County Political Action Committee to educate African American voters of the power of voting and to elect more African American individuals to office. It was in this capacity that I met and got to know him. He had an astute political mind and became a great friend and mentor. He also served on the boards of many civic and educational organizations, most notably the Board of Trustees of Claflin College, where he served for almost 50 years. Throughout his life, Judge Fields accumulated countless awards and honors for his leadership.

Judge Fields was a man of deep faith. Upon returning to Charleston after law school, he rejoined the Centenary Methodist Church that he attended as a child. He was quickly elected treasurer by the congregation, a position he retained for many decades. He also represented his Church at the United Methodist Church South Carolina Annual Conference for more than 50 years. Judge Fields was a dedicated family man and was married to Myrtle T.

Evans for almost 6 decades before her passing. Together they had 2 children, Mary Diane Fields-Reed and Richard E. Fields, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in honoring the remarkable life of Judge Richard E. Fields. His service as a judge, attorney, community leader, and parishioner made an enduring impact on his community. His brilliance and decency will be remembered by all who were fortunate to meet him.

HONORING THE LOSS OF KAREN
HOBERT FLYNN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I rise today to honor the life and career of Karen Hobert Flynn of Middletown, Connecticut. Karen, a trailblazer in strengthening democracy in Connecticut and nationwide, tragically passed away at the age of 60 on March 3, 2023, after complications from her courageous fight against cancer. Karen's trailblazing work to enact and implement meaningful campaign finance reform in Connecticut has and will continue to have a healthy, positive and direct impact on Connecticut's electoral democracy which is a legacy that will live on for ages. Our state is forever in her debt.

Born in 1962 in Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania to Susan Forrest and Peter Hobert, Karen moved at an early age with her family to Medford, New Jersey where she graduated high school. From there, Karen attended St. Mary's College in Maryland to receive her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History. Immediately after graduating, in 1985, she started what would transition into a lifelong career at Common Cause as the director of the Campaign Finance Monitoring Project. Over the course of the next decade, Karen also helped organize and direct several other public interest campaigns, which included work for Public Citizen and the Center for Science in Public Interest.

Over time, Karen's passion for good governance itself lead her to embrace the need for robust campaign finance reform. It was that mission that brought her to Connecticut. In 1996, she took on the job of Executive Director of the state chapter of Common Cause. She continued to lead the Connecticut Chapter into the early 2000s and became the organization's state chair in 2001. I first got to know Karen when I joined Connecticut Secretary of State Miles Rapaport's office as Special Counsel on Campaign Finance, and worked with Karen in her quest for reform. As the State Chair of Common Cause, Karen was the go-to expert responding on the front lines

to a political and ethical firestorm, which led to the 2004 resignation and criminal conviction of a former Connecticut governor. With the public revulsion in the wake of that event fresh in the voter's minds, Karen organized the successful push with Connecticut Governor Jodi Rell and Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz to enact a sweeping Connecticut campaign finance law built around the structure of public financing of elections. The final law created the landmark, nationally renowned Connecticut Citizens Election Program, that today is still the law of the land in Connecticut.

Karen's democratic activism did not end with this milestone. She went on to lead common cause nationally, providing help and assistance to other reform efforts in other states, as well as lobbying Congress for federal campaign finance reform. Though she kept focus on growing the mission of Common Cause, doubling its membership and reach to 30 states, she also maintained a watchful eye on the electoral safeguards her organization effected. She repeatedly stepped in to thwart partisan efforts to undermine the Election Program. By 2016, Karen was rightfully named President of Common Cause at a time when national attacks on our democratic norms and institutions began to spin out of control. Needless to say, Karen was a tireless defender of our system of government, a fierce advocate for legislative efforts which have passed this body in previous sessions—the For the People Act—and a tenacious fighter of corruption at all levels of our political system.

Mr. Speaker, the life of Karen Hobert Flynn has greatly improved accountability standards within the State of Connecticut, as well as what Americans expect across the country. In her passing, Karen joins the ranks of many likeminded and fierce advocates who dedicated themselves to creating a stronger Union and community. I offer my sincere condolences to her friends and family, specifically her husband, Robert Flynn and four sons, John, Peter, Daniel and Michael, siblings, as well as everyone at Common Cause. We cannot soon hope to replace the void of her loss, and her principled vision for an inclusive democracy. To that end, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in remembrance of Karen Hobert Flynn and preserve her life and works.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF KYLE
KLEIN

HON. MARK E. GREEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kyle Klein for his distinguished career in service to the House Committee on Homeland Security and the United States Congress.

A graduate of Liberty University, Kyle started his career as an intern for the House Committee on Homeland Security. Through his hard work and determination, he worked his way up the Committee's ranks, from Professional Staff Member to a Subcommittee Staff Director, and finally as the Committee Staff Director.

Kyle is a dedicated public servant and policy expert with deep knowledge of the Department of Homeland Security's functions and policies. Through over a decade of service at the Committee, he has served under five different chairmen or ranking members. His leadership has helped focus our Committee on the top priorities at hand: the crisis at our southern border, the increasing threats to our Nation's cybersecurity, and the critical need to reform and reauthorize the Department of Homeland Security.

Kyle has developed great working relationships with Members and staff across the aisle. Additionally, Kyle was instrumental in this transition as Republicans took the House Majority and the Committee on Homeland Security gained a new Chairman.

Kyle has our deepest gratitude, and I am confident he will continue to distinguish himself in his future endeavors. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I commend Kyle for his diligent service and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE SPRING GARDEN
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING
THE AHSAA CLASS A STATE
TITLE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Spring Garden High School girls' basketball team for winning the AHSAA Class A state title.

On March 3, 2023, the Lady Panthers played fast, leaving no doubt as to who deserves to be state champion, beating Marion County 62 to 39 to secure their title win. The game was played at BJCC's Legacy Arena in Birmingham, Alabama.

The Lady Panthers finished their championship season 36–1. This was head coach Ricky Austin's 7th state championship and the Lady Panthers' 8th basketball state title in school history.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Coach Austin, the Spring Garden High School Lady Panthers' basketball team, students, faculty and all the fans. Go Panthers.